



The Whistle



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION



COWCATCHER DIVISION 1 LONE STAR REGION NMRA

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AUGUST'S MEETING WILL BE SATURDAY 8
AUGUST AT THE TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RR
CLUB AND VIA ZOOM.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I'm writing my Director's Report at the NMRA Convention in Chattanooga, and it is obvious the hobby and the Convention is very strong. Registration at the Convention exceeded 1400 people and as you could tell from Eric's posts a wide variety of topics were covered by recognized experts in the field.

Of particular interest to me, was the approval of AP certificate for Modular Railroading and a clinic put on by Bernard Hellen the owner of Miniprints on "why we model." He is developing a course for "Miniprints University" which explores in great detail "Why we Model". The clinic was a condensed version of his course.

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LEADERSHIP TEAM

DIRECTOR

DICK BRANNAN

SECRETARY

JOHN "TRAPPER" KIRKPATRICK

TREASURER

DAVID GREIN

PROGRAM MANAGER

HAROLD BERENZWEIG

ASST PROGRAM MANAGER &

TRAIN SHOW COORDINATOR

RUSSELL GIFFORD

OPERATIONS MANAGER

JIM DAVIS

ASST OPERATIONS MANAGER

DAVID RANNEY

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM ADVISOR

MIKE MACKEY MMR

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

ROBERT "BOB" MANGRUM MMR

CONTEST ADVISOR

CASEY AKIN

CONTEST ADVISOR

CODY AKIN

**NORTH TEXAS COUNCIL OF TRAIN
CLUBS REPRESENTATIVE**

DICK BRANNAN

MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

MIKE ROSS MMR

ASST MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

DAVID CRUMPTON MMR

SERGEANT AT ARMS

DON ROWE

VIDEOGRAPHER

DAVID KRANDA

COMMUNICATION COORDINATOR

ERIC SMITH

WEB MASTER

JARED ROBERTS

FOR CONTACT INFO SEE
COWCATCHER DIVISION WEB SITE

<https://cowcatcherdivision.org/>



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DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONT.

I am not going to get into all the details of the clinic, but we essentially enjoy modeling because of the sense of accomplishment, the sense of mastery of various skills and a sense of community we derive from the hobby.

The Cowcatcher Division had several members who presented clinics and I want to thank them all: Harold Berenezweig, Russell and Deb Gifford, and Tom Pearson. Of course, Eric Smith supported the Division by recapping the day's event and posting photos.

Last month we had a unique and interesting clinic on military trains conducted by Mike Mackey which was very well attended. It was quite astounding to see all the military cars line up on the Texas Western layout. Thank you again Mike!

This month's clinic will be building the fixture for the trestle that will be done in September. The material list was published on groups i/o several weeks ago. Duane Richardson will be conducting the clinic and as always, it will be outstanding.

Just an update on the Promote the Hobby diorama, it has been moved to Haltom City library and in the last 2

weeks has gotten 20 scans. Both librarians have commented on how much traffic it is generating.

Don't forget our next meeting is next Saturday August 8th and bring a friend to the meeting. If you get a chance, ask Russell how he found his cell phone at the Chattanooga Convention Center.

Keep Training!!

Dick Brannan

Director Cowcatcher Division



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DATES TO REMEMBER

REGIONAL TRAIN SHOWS

THURSDAY TEXAS WESTERN RR
CLUB BUSINESS MEETING FOR
MEMBERS AND PROSPECTIVE
MEMBERS ONLY

7 pm -9 pm 6808 FOREST HILL DR.

FOREST HILL, TX 76140

29-30 AUGUST

AUSTIN AREA TRAIN SHOW

19-20 TEMPLE MODEL TRAIN SHOW

11-12 SEPTEMBER

ABILENE TX RAILROAD FESTIVAL

26-27 SEPTEMBER

PLANO TRAIN SHOW

10-14 AUGUST 2027

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION





TRIVIA QUESTION OF THE MONTH

WHAT IS BANJO??

LOOK FOR ANSWER IN THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER

RAILFAN VIDEO OF THE MONTH ON YOUTUBE

SEABOARD CENTRAL

WEATHERING A HERITAGE LOCO



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AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUBS

COWTOWN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS AT THE HANDLEY
COMMUNITY CENTER, UPSTAIRS 3024
FOREST AVE, FT WORTH,

WEBSITE <https://www.cmrrc.net>

CLMRR

MEETS TUESDAYS, THURSDAYS &
SATURDAYS

THE LAYOUT IS LOCATED AT 3904
VISTA RIDGE LN

ALVARADO, TX 76009

FOR INFO CONTACT LEE MARTIN AT
817-666-5367

DALLAS/FT WORTH O SCALE CLUB

NORMALLY MEETS TWO SATURDAYS
PER MONTH IN RICHARDSON

CONTACT TO BE IDENTIFIED

bradyprmla@cablone.net

STAN SCHWARTZ ss124@sbcglobal.net

DENTON AREA MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

MEETS 2ND TUESDAY OF EVERY
MONTH AT 6:45 PM IN THE DENTON
SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER
DOWNTOWN

HO & N SCALE MODULAR LAYOUTS

<https://www.facebook.com/damrrc/>

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER OF NATIONAL RAILWAY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Chill Bar & Grill (Cotton Belt Room)

814 South Main Street

Grapevine, Texas 76051

(NW Corner of S. Main St. & Dallas Rd.)

Our new meeting hours are 7:30 pm - 9:30
pm. We still meet every first Tuesday of the
month.

<https://ntxnrhs.org>

TEXAS WESTERN MODEL RAILROAD CLUB

LOCATED AT 6808 FOREST HILL, 76140

VISITOR HOURS: SEE CLUB WEBSITE

[https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmod
elrailroad club](https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmodelrailroadclub)

<https://www.twmrrc.org>

TRINITY N-TRK

MEETS AT HOBBY WORLD, FT WORTH
AT 6:30PM

CHECK WEBSITE FOR TIME

<https://www.trinityntrak.com>

TNMRC

MEETS AT 11999 PLANO RD, SUITE 154,
DALLAS 75243

<https://www.texasnorthern.org>

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ANGELO HOBBIES

5600 RUFÉ SNOW DRIVE #106

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS 76180

DISCOUNT MODEL TRAINS

4641 RATLIFF LN

ADDISON 75001

MODEL TRAIN CROSSING

NEW ADDRESS 1 OCT

7801 Brandi Lane

North Richland Hills

HOBBYTOWN USA

746 GRAPEVINE HWY

HURST 76054

HOBBYTOWN USA

500 E. ROUND GROVE RD

LEWISVILLE 75067

WILD BILL'S HOBBYTOWN USA

1112 W. ARBROOK BLVD

ARLINGTON 76015

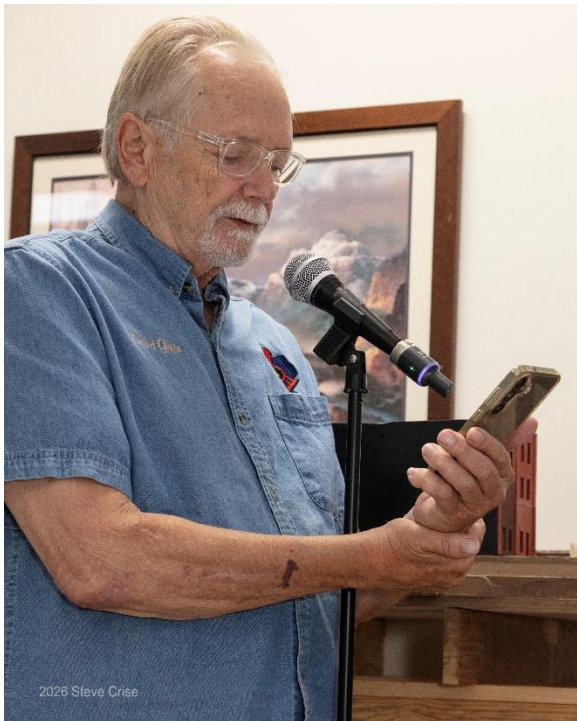
NMRA POLICY STATEMENT

EFFECTIVE MARCH 31, 2020, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICY ADOPTED BY THE NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION AT ITS BOARD MEETING ON MARCH 7, 2020, DIVISION 1 OF THE LONE STAR REGION OF THE NMRA, COMMONLY KNOWN AS THE COWCATCHER DIVISION, WILL REQUIRE ANYONE UNDER THE AGE OF 18, WISHING TO ATTEND ANY DIVISION EVENT, TO BE PERSONALLY ESCORTED BY THEIR PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN.

ADDITIONALLY, PARENT OR LEGAL GUARDIAN MUST SIGN A CURRENT DOCUMENT STATING THAT THEY WILL REMAIN IN VISUAL CONTACT WITH THEIR MINOR AT ALL TIMES.



WELCOME TO TEXAS WESTERN



TREASURER'S REPORT



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LSR AWARD



SHOW & TELL



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O GAUGE TURNTABLE PIT



DEAL OR DUD



LSR HONORS 2026

ANSWER TO THIS MONTH'S
TRIVIA QUESTION:

A FIREMAN'S SHOVEL



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JULY CLINIC
MIKE MACKEY MILITARY
TRAIN



TO WATCH THE CLINIC GO TO
COWCATCHER DIVISION JULY
2026 ON YOUTUBE AND START
AT 57:16.



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AUGUST CLINIC

MAKE & TAKE

The August clinic will be the first of two make and take clinics given by Duane Richardson. The project will be a wood trestle. You will be able to make it sized to fit what is needed on your layout. The first session will start with making a jig to facilitate making the bents.

Building & Bridge Department LIST OF MATERIALS

ALL POSTS & CAPS 8" X 12"

NORTHEASTERN SCALE
LUMBER CO # HOSCAL81211

CROSS BRACES 3"X10"

NE SCALE LUMBER
#HOSCAL31011

HORIZONTAL BRACES 6" X 12"

NE SCALE LUMBER
#HOSCAL61211

GIRTS

6"X8"

NE SCALE LUMBER
#HOSCAL6811

STRINGERS 6"X20"

OPEN STOCK FROM HOBBY
SHOP

BRIDGE TIES 8"X8"

NE SCALE LUMBER #HOSCAL
8811

PLATFORM RAILINGS

2"X 4"

NE SCALE LUMBER # HOSCAL
2411

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PAINTS & STAINS

ALCOHOL & INK

5 TSP OF BLACK INDIA INK IN A
PINT OF RUBBING ALCOHOL

BASE COAT SLIGHTLY THINNED
BURNT UMBER

CREAMCOAT

MIXED STAIN

½ TSP DRIZZLE GRAY

CERAMCOAT

2 TSP BURNT UMBER

CERAMCOAT

3 TSP DARK CHOCOLATE

CERAMCOAT

½ TSP OPAQUE BLACK

CERAMCOAT

THIS IS MIXED IN A 2 OUNCE
JAR WITH A LID

RUST (NBW AND RAILS)

95% RUST BROWN

FLOQUIL*

5% RUST

FLOQUIL*

*WITH FLOQUIL NO LONGER IN
PRODUCTION PLEASE FIND
SUITABLE RUST COLOR
ALTERNATIVE

A SURVEY HISTORY OF RAILROADS IN TEXAS, from the article found in the Texas Historical Association Handbook of Texas online, part 8.

Texas continues to have more railroad mileage than any other state and the largest number of railroad employees. In 1992 chemicals accounted for thirty percent of the railroad tonnage originating in the state, while agricultural products, the leading category during the early years, accounted for only seven percent. Coal represented the largest category of rail tonnage terminating in Texas. The state is second only to Virginia with its extensive coal shipping piers in the amount of coal terminated.

The passage of the Staggers Act in 1980 deregulating railroads resulted in a new era for the companies as they were now able to compete on the basis of rates as well as service. In addition, the act also allowed the railroads more freedom in abandoning or selling marginal branch lines. With these changes the major freight railroads have been able to attract additional business and better concentrate their resources, resulting in the best physical plant in their history. At the same time some of the historic Texas lines, such as the

Roscoe, Snyder and Pacific Railway Company, no longer had a role to play and were abandoned. This was offset by a number of new companies, such as the South Orient Railroad Company, which were organized to acquire and operate secondary and branch lines no longer wanted by the major companies. These new railroads have attempted to preserve rail service over lines which otherwise may have been abandoned.

In 1992 the Association of American Railroads recognized forty different railroads operating in the state, of which seventeen had been formed since deregulation. These lines operated a total of 11,285 miles of track, which represented a decrease of about thirty-three percent since the peak reached in 1932. The forty companies represent the remainder of some 300 railroads that have operated in the state. The merger of Texas railroads that began in 1858 with the combination of the Houston Tap and the Houston Tap and Brazoria continues. Major changes in recent years include the merger of the Texas and Pacific into the Missouri Pacific in 1976 and the merger of the St. Louis-San Francisco Railway Company into the Burlington Northern in 1980. The Union Pacific Corporation acquired the Missouri Pacific in 1982, and the operations of the Missouri Pacific and the Union Pacific Railroad were subsequently

consolidated. However, the Missouri Pacific still remains a separate company and in 1989 merged with the Missouri-Kansas-Texas. On September 22, 1995, the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe merged to form the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad.



T&P 1ST STREET YARD

ABILENE TX 1996

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**NMRA NATIONAL
CONVENTION**

2027

10 -14 AUGUST 2027

